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PATENTS
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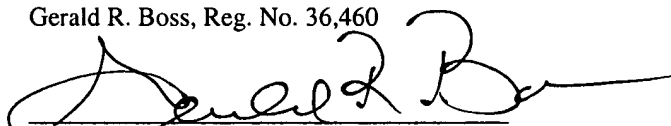


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PIPE APPLICATION OF)	EXAMINER: unassigned
Barron, et al.)	
)	
APPLICATION SERIAL NO.)	GROUP ART UNIT 3679
10/815,275)	
FILED: April 1, 2004)	
)	
TITLE: PIPE COUPLING DEVICE)	ATTY. DOCKET NO.
)	MUELL40

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 30, 2004.

Gerald R. Boss, Reg. No. 36,460


Signature

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with applicant's duty of disclosure under Rules 56, 97 and 98 of the Rules of Practice for Patent Cases (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98 respectively), the following references are provided for the Examiner. Copies of these references are submitted herewith along with a completed form PTO-SA/08A.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/815,275
Applicant: Barron, et al.

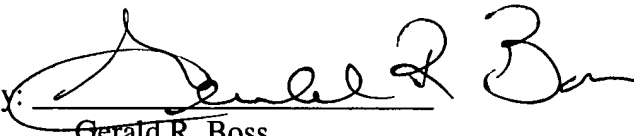
1. U.S. Patent No. 4,569,542 to Anderson et al.; and
2. U.S. Patent No. 5,803,513 to Richardson.

These references are cited only as constituting the closest art of which applicant is aware.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims patentably define over all of the above references.

No fee is believed to be payable in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. If a fee is, however, deemed to be payable, please charge such additional fees due to deposit account 20-1507.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Gerald R. Boss
Registration No. 36,460
Attorney for Applicant

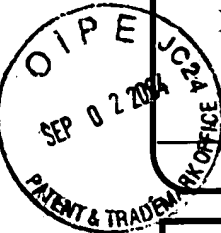
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Complete If Known

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	
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Application Number	10/815,275
Filing Date	April 1, 2004
First Named Inventor	Barron
Group Art Unit	3679
Examiner Name	unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	MUELL40

[illegible][illegible]

Examiner
Signature

Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete including gathering, preparing and submitted the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestion for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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